

What is claimed is:

1. A magnifying observation apparatus comprising:

a simple observation condition setting section for setting simple observation conditions for simply acquiring a plurality of observation images;

a simple observation image display section for displaying a plurality of simple observation images acquired per said plurality of simple observation conditions set with said simple observation condition setting section;

a selection section for selecting a desired simple observation image from among the plurality of simple observation images displayed on said simple observation image display section;

an observation condition setting section for setting further observation conditions as required based on the simple observation conditions set to the simple observation image selected with said selection section; and

an observation image display section for displaying an observation image acquired based on the observation conditions set with said observation condition setting section.

2. A magnifying observation apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a simple observation image acquisition section for acquiring simple observation images per said plurality of simple

observation conditions set with said simple observation condition setting section;

a simple observation image storage section for storing a plurality of simple observation images acquired with said simple observation image acquisition section; and

an observation image acquisition section for acquiring an observation image based on the observation conditions set with said observation condition setting section,

wherein said simple observation image display section displays the plurality of simple observation images stored into said simple observation image display section, and said observation image display section displays the observation image acquired with said observation image acquisition section.

3. A magnifying observation apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said simple observation image display section lists a plurality of simple observation images.

4. A magnifying observation apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said simple observation image display section comprises a switching section for selectively displaying the plurality of simple observation images.

5. A magnifying observation apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

an adjustment section for performing at least positioning and focusing on an observation image displayed on said observation image display section before setting simple observation conditions by said simple observation condition
5 setting section.

6. A magnifying observation apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the simple observation conditions set with said simple observation condition setting section includes at
10 least one of the control of brightness of an image, adjustment of illumination method, adjustment of an angle of an imaging section, and image processing.

7. A magnifying observation apparatus according to
15 claim 6, wherein the adjustment of the illumination method is made by way of at least one of selection between incident-light illumination and transmitting illumination as an illumination direction, selection between peripheral illumination and side illumination, and selection among a diffuser, a polarizer and
20 a transmitted light without using filters as a filter for an illumination light.

8. A magnifying observation apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the control of the brightness of an image is
25 done by at least one of the control of the light quantity of

the illumination, adjustment of the shutter speed of the imaging sections, gain control, and control of white balance.

9. A magnifying observation apparatus according to
5 claim 1, wherein at least the characteristics of an observation subject is set with said simple observation condition setting section.

10. A method for operating a magnifying observation
10 apparatus, said method comprising:

photographing an observation image with arbitrary observation conditions and displaying an arbitrary observation image photographed;

performing at least positioning and focusing on the
15 arbitrary observation image displayed;

varying the observation conditions on the adjusted observation image and setting simple observation conditions for simply acquiring a plurality of observation images;

acquiring simple observation images per said plurality
20 of simple observation conditions set;

displaying the plurality of simple observation images acquired;

selecting a desired simple observation image from among the plurality of simple observation images displayed;

25 setting further observation conditions as required based

on the simple observation conditions set to the simple observation image selected;

acquiring an observation image based on the observation conditions set; and

5 displaying the acquired observation image.

11. A computer-readable medium storing instructions for operating a magnifying observation apparatus, said instructions comprising:

10 photographing an observation image with arbitrary observation conditions and displaying an arbitrary observation image photographed;

performing at least positioning and focusing on the arbitrary observation image displayed;

15 varying the observation conditions on the adjusted observation image and setting simple observation conditions for simply acquiring a plurality of observation images;

acquiring simple observation images per said plurality of simple observation conditions set;

20 displaying the plurality of simple observation images acquired;

selecting a desired simple observation image from among the plurality of simple observation images displayed;

25 setting further observation conditions as required based on the simple observation conditions set to the simple

observation image selected;

acquiring an observation image based on the observation
conditions set; and

displaying an observation image acquired.

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